

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated January 25, 2007. A three month petition for extension of time and a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) are also submitted herewith. The Examiner rejected claims 3, 4, 11, and 12 as anticipated by "E-Coupons and E-Tickets to Go" PC Magazine, May 23, 2000, p 80 (PC Mag). Claims 18 and 20 were rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of PC Mag in combination with International Publication No. WO 00/03328 issued to Hymel (Hymel). Claims 5, 8, 13, 16, 17 and 19 are rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of PC Mag in combination with U.S. Pat. No. 6,112,078 issued to Sormunen (Sormunen). All pending are hereby amended. Reconsideration and reexamination in view of the present amendments and arguments is respectfully requested.

All independent claims were amended to recite two general features. First, displaying the ticket data comprises displaying a first image (or generating a first message), allowing a user to enter a password, and then displaying a second image (or a second message). Both images (or messages) are used for authentication. Second, the portable terminal device is loaded with a software before the ticket data is to be displayed. The portable terminal device is configured not to display the any of the two images (or messages) unless the software is actually loaded. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 14 line 20 through page 15, line 24.

It is respectfully submitted that the addition of the above discussed limitations renders independent claims 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, and 13 patentable in view of the cited art. The cited art does not disclose a two step validation process where a first image is initially displayed, a password is entered and then a second image is displayed and both images are used for validating entry. It should be noted, that as recited by the claims the above discussed password is different than any password that may be used to initially obtain the ticket data from the ticket issue server. Instead, it is a password that is used after the ticket has already been obtained as part of the validation of entry to the event site. As noted above, the cited art does not disclose using a password as part of validation of entry into the event site.

Embodiments of the present invention recited by the amended claims can be very useful in certain circumstances. For example, certain events may issue the so called day tickets. Day tickets are usually tickets issued on the day of a particular event and are only good for a predefined number of day ticket holders that first arrive to the event. For example, a thousand day tickets may be issued for an event, and only the first 200 persons holding a day ticket may be let in the event. Thus, the ticket data may define a day ticket. The first image may be used to indicate to an event official and the user that the user of the portable terminal device is a holder of a day ticket. The event official may then give the user a password. Alternatively, the password may be obtained by the user from a machine that issues passwords based on the order of the user's arrival. Thus, the password may indicate the order of the user's arrival. The user may then enter the password at the portable terminal device. The portable terminal device determines whether the day ticket is sufficient to grant the user entrance into the event site based on the password. If that is the case, the portable terminal device displays a second image or message that indicates that the user should be granted entrance. The preloaded software may be used to ensure that the user does not "hack" the portable device in order to cause it to display the first and second images if he/she does not have a day ticket, or if the password is not sufficient to grant the user access based on the day ticket.

While the above is an illustrative example of a useful implementation of various embodiments covered by the present claims, it should not be considered to limit the claims in any way.

It is respectfully submitted that independent claims 3, 4, 5, 11, 12 and 13 are patentable in view of the cited art for the above discussed reasons. Dependent claims 8 and 16-20 are patentable because they depend upon the above recited independent claims.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (213) 892 5790.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 393032028500. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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